





London Calling

Get to know London like a local with these insider tips, from pop-up movie nights and open-air pools to classic pubs and antiques emporia.



LIVING HISTORY

The late American artist Dennis Severs created this portrait of a family of Huguenot silk-weavers in his 18th-century East London home over a number of years. **The Silent Night tour**, where you wander in silence through rooms done up as if the family had just left them, is the most powerful way to experience it.

IN THE SPOTLIGHT

The **Royal Opera House**, one of the oldest and largest theatres in London, is home to the Royal Opera and Royal Ballet. Costume-making workshops, rehearsal studios and more can be seen as part of the fascinating backstage tours.

DEAD GOOD

London's **'Magnificent Seven'** cemeteries were built in the 19th century to address overcrowding in local churchyards. The prettiest and most historical are Highgate and Brompton.

DEER, OH DEER

Richmond Park offers a taste of the countryside not far from the centre of town. Hire a bike and cycle the 12-kilometre Tamsin Trail around its perimeter, looking out for the herds of red and fallow deer.

ART JAUNT

East London is a hotbed of street art, and there's no better way to experience it than on a dedicated tour with **Street Art London**. The artist guides really know their stuff, and no two tours are the same.

TREASURE TROVES

Quirky **antiques emporia** like Camden Passage in Islington and Northcote Road Antiques Market in Clapham are fun for browsing and can yield unusual souvenirs too, from silver spoons to elegant attire.

IN THE KNOW

With new bars, shops and restaurants opening every day of the week, it's hard to keep up. **Just Opened London** can help, letting you search by area.

A LOVELY CUPPA

Take a taste of England home with you with a specialty loose tea from 300-year-old supplier **Fortnum & Mason**. They come in lovely traditional caddies.

STYLIST SOUVENIRS

The gift shop at the **London Transport Museum** is full of fantastic souvenir ideas, from classic posters to accessories made from the fabric you find on the Tube.

DAY-TRIPPER

Oxford, 70 minutes from London by train, is home to the U.K.'s oldest university. Soak up the history, take a river tour in a punt and don't miss the Harry Potter film locations.

BED TIME

Make the most of London's architectural heritage with a stay at an unusual hotel conversion. **The Milestone** in Kensington was once a series of townhouses; Bethnal Green's **Town Hall Hotel** occupies the former seat of local government; and the **Chiltern Firehouse** in Marylebone was one of London's first purpose-built fire stations.

TUCK IN

The Far East doesn't have a monopoly on night markets these days, with weekend events like **Street Feast** bringing together dozens of food stalls and cocktail and beer bars, plus DJs who create a party vibe.

BRITISH BOOZERS

Traditional pubs are still the beating heart of London's social scene, and there are some beautiful, historical ones around. Try **The Mayflower** in Rotherhithe, **Cittie of Yorke** in Holborn and **The Nags Head** in Belgravia.

BOTTOMS UP

London is crazy for cocktails these days and there are few mixologists as talented as Ryan Chetiyawardana, whose **Dandelyan** bar at Mondrian London at Sea Containers offers fantastic views of the river along with an innovative drinks menu.

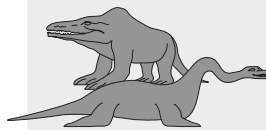
CALMING COFFEE

Beautiful City of London church St Nicholas Cole Abbey dates back to the 12th century. You'll find great coffee and healthy snacks and lunches in a peaceful environment at onsite café, **The Wren**.

SHOP 'TIL YOU DROP

You could spend a lifetime checking out London's myriad shopping scenes but don't miss cutting-edge gallery-style boutique **Dover Street Market**, gorgeous historic department store **Liberty**, or the **Old Curiosity Shop**, one of the oldest shop premises in London.

Travel Tips



THE ORIGINAL JURASSIC PARK

Crystal Palace Park is home to the curious spectacle of a collection of dinosaurs and extinct mammals – not all of them accurate – commissioned when the Crystal Palace, built for the Great Exhibition, was moved here in 1854. It's also home to the national sports centre, a playground and an outdoor concert stage.



ON YER BIKE

Santander Cycles is London's self-service, inexpensive and easy to use, free bike-sharing scheme for short journeys. The free Santander Cycles app tells you the location of the nearest docking stations and how many bikes and spaces are available. No booking is required.



HERITAGE LIVING

Use the free **Citymapper** app to plan your journey and find the best route around the city. The planner app combines all transport modes available: walking, tube, metro, bus, train, rail, ferry, Uber, taxi, bicycles, and also include traffic and disruptions, all in real-time.